

Please enter the following amendments:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

16. (Amended) A method for assaying compounds to determine if they are  $A_{2B}$  adenosine receptor antagonists or  $A_{2B}$  adenosine receptor agonists comprising the steps of:
- a. preparing a first and second sample of retinal endothelial cells;
  - b. adding a compound to be tested to the first sample of retinal endothelial cells and allowing the compound to remain in contact with the first sample of retinal endothelial cells for a defined period of time; and
  - c. comparing the number of new cells grown in the first sample with the number of new cells grown in the second sample.

Please add the following new claim:

19. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the retinal endothelial cells are human cells.

**Remarks**

**The Amendments**

Claim 16 has been amended to remove the term "human" from the claim. This amendment is a broadening amendment. Support for the amendment can be found on page 5, line 22 through page 6, line 1 of the specification, which teaches that the claimed methods can use, *inter alia*, mouse cells. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is provided in Appendix A.